



CONGRESSIONAL BUDGET OFFICE COST ESTIMATE

May 28, 2008

S. 2707

Chesapeake Bay Gateways and Watertrails Network Continuing Authorization Act

*As ordered reported by the Senate Committee on Environment and Public Works
on May 21, 2008*

SUMMARY

S. 2707 would reauthorize funding for the Chesapeake Bay Initiative, a program carried out by the National Park Service (NPS) and other federal agencies to conserve resources in the Chesapeake Bay watershed. Assuming appropriation of the necessary amounts, CBO estimates that implementing this legislation would cost the NPS about \$5 million over the 2009-2013 period and \$1 million a year thereafter. Enacting S. 2707 would not affect direct spending or revenues.

S. 2707 contains no intergovernmental or private-sector mandates as defined in the Unfunded Mandates Reform Act (UMRA) and would impose no costs on state, local, or tribal governments.

ESTIMATED COST TO THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT

The estimated budgetary impact of S. 2707 is shown in the following table. The costs of this legislation fall within budget function 300 (natural resources and environment).

	By Fiscal Year, in Millions of Dollars					
	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013
SPENDING SUBJECT TO APPROPRIATION						
Spending Under Current Law						
Budget Authority ^a	1	0	0	0	0	0
Estimated Outlays	1	0	0	0	0	0
Proposed Changes						
Estimated Authorization Level	0	1	1	1	1	1
Estimated Outlays	0	1	1	1	1	1
Spending Under S. 2707						
Estimated Authorization Level ^a	1	1	1	1	1	1
Estimated Outlays	1	1	1	1	1	1

a. The 2008 level is the amount appropriated for that year.

BASIS OF ESTIMATE

S. 2707 would authorize (indefinitely) the appropriation of whatever amounts are necessary for programs carried out under the Chesapeake Bay Initiative Act of 1998. Based on recent appropriations for those programs, CBO estimates that the NPS would spend about \$1 million annually under the bill, mostly for grants to nonfederal entities. The current authorization of appropriations for the program, which will expire at the end of fiscal year 2008, is \$3 million annually, but appropriations have generally been about one-third of that amount each year (\$1 million).

INTERGOVERNMENTAL AND PRIVATE-SECTOR IMPACT

S. 2707 contains no intergovernmental or private-sector mandates as defined in UMRA and would impose no costs on state, local, or tribal governments. State and local governments could benefit from grants authorized by the bill.

PREVIOUS CBO COST ESTIMATE

On May 7, 2008, CBO transmitted a cost estimate for H.R. 5540, the Chesapeake Bay Gateways and Watertrails Network Continuing Authorization Act, as ordered reported by the

House Committee on Natural Resources on April 30, 2008. H.R. 5540 and S. 2707 are nearly identical, and the CBO cost estimates for the two versions of the legislation are the same.

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